

	<b>Speaker</b>	<b>Comment</b>	<b>+ / -</b>
1	Rita Mohn	Eric's widow; represents the family. The house does not represent Eric. Summarized Eric's life. He started to paint after college, and after a job.	-
2	Margaret Hadley 215 Harrison St.	Provided petition – to preserve the character of historic Rockville. Doesn't like tear-downs.	+
3	Don Hadley 215 Harrison St.	1) Eric is significant as overcoming his handicap, and as an artist; 2) the house is architecturally significant for Colonial Revival, and for disability architecture.; and 3) Kermit and Evelyn are significant.	+
4	Paul Keel 109 Upton St.	Let people do what they want with their property.	-
5	Will Jacob Forest & Beall	Supports community preservation; against tear downs and mansionization	+
6	Lynn Wagner 203 W. Montgomery	Consider adding demolition to the notification sign. Safeguard the heritage of Rockville. Wonderful house.	+
7	Mary van Balgooy Peerless RVL	Clear testimony, support for Eric's accomplishments including painting. Buses to accommodate disabilities prior to ADA federal law. Trail Blazing.	+
8	Steve Snyder 203 Upton	Does not support designation. Knows the family, and has seen drawings of proposed house, great diff. Between 100 and 200 block of Upton.	-
9	Eileen McGuckian	Meets criterion II-A and I-B. HD is not a deterrent, but a positive thing for a neighborhood and a property.	+
10	Victoria McMullen 100 North Street	Supports preservation, and opposes demolition	+
11	Shauna Rhodes	Eric Mohn's stepdaughter – the house meant nothing to Eric, and has nothing to do with his art.	-
12	Steven Mohn South Carolina, via texts	Does not support designation for Eric's memory, parents would do the same. The house does not represent Eric. Economic consideration also applies to those who fear mansionization .	-

December 14, 2011

Historic District Commission  
City of Rockville

Dear Mr. Chairman and Commissioners,

I am Rita Mohn, widow of Eric Mohn, deceased son of the recently deceased Kermit B. Mohn, who lived at 201 Upton Street in Rockville.

I want to thank Ms Robin Ziek, the City of Rockville Historic Preservation Planner for her thorough research into the history of this property. I also want to thank this commission for conducting this review.

I want to express that I fully agree with the input that my brother in law, Kermit S. Mohn, son and successor trustee for the Kermit B. Mohn estate.

My Father in law was a remarkable man and volunteer as attested by the numerous citations he received during his lifetime. I believe his legacy does not rest in establishing his home as a historic property; his legacy lies in the impact that he has had on the lives of people he touched. Neither my brother in law nor I want his house established as a monument.

As a correction to one written input in your briefing file, my husband, Eric Mohn, accomplished his artistic work as a quadriplegic in the years long after he moved from 201 Upton Street. His legacy should not be associated with that house.

I concur with Ms. Ziek's findings and hope that this request passes.

Respectively

Rita Mohn

PETITION

To: The City of Rockville Historic District Commission  
 From: The Undersigned Citizens of Rockville  
 Re: HDC2012-00558 Evaluation of Property for Demolition  
 Property: Kermit Brown Mohn House, 201 Upton Street  
 Dates: As indicated

We hereby petition the Historic District Commission to determine and recognize that the Kermit Brown Mohn House (1) is historically, culturally, socially and architecturally very significant to we citizens of Rockville, and to our community, our City, Montgomery County, the State of Maryland and beyond and (2) its demolition would be highly detrimental from all of these perspectives;

and

We strongly endorse and support the submission of Margaret and Donald Hadley in the referenced matter.

Signed:

Signature	Street Address (Rockville, MD)	Phone/e-mail	Date
<u><i>Susan Prince</i></u> SUSAN PRINCE	<u>206 EVANS ST. Rock.</u> FOREST	<u>301 762-5354</u>	<u>12/9/11</u>
<u><i>Alexandra Haropoulos</i></u> Alexandra Haropoulos	<u>203 <del>ROCKVILLE</del> AVE Rockville</u>	<u>301 424 7604</u>	<u>12/10/11</u>
<u><i>Jennife Kaye</i></u> Jennife Kaye	<u>100 Forest Ave Rockville</u>	<u>301 294-5841</u>	
<u><i>Scott Carman</i></u> Scott Carman	<u>14 Forest Ave, Rockville</u>	<u>301 762 6129</u>	<u>12/11/11</u>
<u><i>Dorothy Beach</i></u> DOROTHY BEACH	<u>200 N Van Buren</u>	<u>301 738 8782</u>	<u>12/14/11</u>
<u><i>Lynn Wagner</i></u> Lynn Wagner	<u>203 W. Montg. Ave.</u>	<u>301-340-1669</u>	<u>12-14-11</u>

34 = 7 + 8 + 8 + 8 + 2 + 1

# PETITION

To: The City of Rockville Historic District Commission

From: The Undersigned Citizens of Rockville

Re: HDC2012-00558 Evaluation of Property for Demolition  
Property: Kermit Brown Mohn House, 201 Upton Street

Dates: As indicated

We hereby petition the Historic District Commission to determine and recognize that the Kermit Brown Mohn House (1) is historically, culturally, socially and architecturally very significant to we citizens of Rockville, and to our community, our City, Montgomery County, the State of Maryland and beyond and (2) its demolition would be highly detrimental from all of these perspectives;

and

We strongly endorse and support the submission of Margaret and Donald Hadley in the referenced matter.

Signed:

Signature	Street Address (Rockville, MD)	Phone/e-mail	Date
<u>Bill Forehand</u>	<u>712 Smallwood Rd</u>	<u>301 762 4712</u>	<u>12 Dec 2011</u>
<u>R Stahl</u>	<u>103 North St</u>	<u>301 424 9252</u>	<u>12/12/11</u>
<u>J. STAHL</u>	<u>103 North St.</u>	<u>301-424-9252</u>	<u>12/12/11</u>
<u>Stewart Bowman</u>	<u>702 WIMMONTGOMER</u>	<u>301-424-1350</u>	<u>12/13/11</u>
<u>Philip Bowen</u>	<u>310 W Montgomery Ave</u>	<u>202-421-7013</u>	<u>12/13/11</u>
<u>Dennis Cain</u>	<u>502 CAREZ AV</u>	<u>301 424 6898</u>	<u>14 DEC 2011</u>
<u>Carma Cain</u>	<u>502 Carez Ave</u>	<u>301-424-6898</u>	<u>14 Dec 2011</u>
<u>(Warren Crutchfield)</u>	<u>20 Mathews Lane</u>	<u>301 340-7413</u>	

PETITION

To: The City of Rockville Historic District Commission

From: The Undersigned Citizens of Rockville

Re: HDC2012-00558 Evaluation of Property for Demolition  
Property: Kermit Brown Mohn House, 201 Upton Street

Dates: As indicated

We hereby petition the Historic District Commission to determine and recognize that the Kermit Brown Mohn House (1) is historically, culturally, socially and architecturally very significant to we citizens of Rockville, and to our community, our City, Montgomery County, the State of Maryland and beyond and (2) its demolition would be highly detrimental from all of these perspectives;

and

We strongly endorse and support the submission of Margaret and Donald Hadley in the referenced matter.

Signed:

Signature

Street Address (Rockville, MD)

Phone/e-mail

Date

Victoria McAllen

Victoria McAllen 100 North St.

301-724-4563

Dorothy Rieck

Dorothy Rieck 305 Camp Avenue

301-340-1267 12/11/11

John D. Anselmo

John D. Anselmo 326 Beall Avenue

301-294-8177 12/11/11

John D. Anselmo

John D. Anselmo 326 Beall Ave

301-294-8177 12/11/11

Melanie Zalotsky

Melanie Zalotsky 101 North St

(301) 294-1794 12/11/11

Kevin Zalotsky

Kevin Zalotsky 101 North St

(301) 294-1794 12/11/11

Jack Leiderman

Jack Leiderman 100 North St

301 279 2158 12/11/11

Jennie Forehand

Jennie Forehand 712 Smallwood Road - Rockville

301-762-4772 12/11/12

# PETITION

To: The City of Rockville Historic District Commission

From: The Undersigned Citizens of Rockville

Re: HDC2012-00558 Evaluation of Property for Demolition  
Property: Kermit Brown Mohn House, 201 Upton Street

Dates: As indicated

We hereby petition the Historic District Commission to determine and recognize that the Kermit Brown Mohn House (1) is historically, culturally, socially and architecturally very significant to we citizens of Rockville, and to our community, our City, Montgomery County, the State of Maryland and beyond and (2) its demolition would be highly detrimental from all of these perspectives;

and

We strongly endorse and support the submission of Margaret and Donald Hadley in the referenced matter.

Signed:

Signature	Street Address (Rockville, MD)	Phone/e-mail	Date
<i>Gerard Kasan</i> GERARD KASAN	108 Upton St Rockville 20852	301 424 3742	12/11/11
<i>William Jacobs</i> WILLIAM JACOBS	107 Upton St. 20850	301 315-0986	12/11/11
<i>William Jacobs</i> WILLIAM JACOBS	112 Forest Ave. 20852	301 315-0986	12/11/11
<i>Fred Newton</i> FRED NEWTON	10 DALLY DR, Rockville Md 20850	301-762-4138	12/11/11
<i>Rose Sharkey</i> ROSE SHARKEY	308 Great Falls Rd	301 762 9388	12/11/11
<i>William Sharkey</i> WILLIAM SHARKEY	308 Great Falls Rd	301 762 7862	12/12/11
<i>Claire Hannan</i> CLAIRE HANNAN	533 Anderson Ave	301 762 7862	12/12/11
<i>Wade S. Bryan</i> WADE S. BRYAN	207 S. Washington St.	301 279 7706	12/14/11
<i>Wade S. Bryan</i> WADE S. BRYAN	207 S. Washington St.	301-762-1236	12/15/11

# PETITION

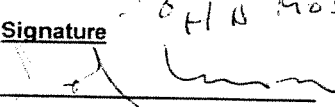
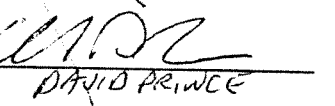
To: The City of Rockville Historic District Commission  
 From: The Undersigned Citizens of Rockville  
 Re: HDC2012-00558 Evaluation of Property for Demolition  
 Property: Kermit Brown Mohn House, 201 Upton Street  
 Dates: As indicated

We hereby petition the Historic District Commission to determine and recognize that the Kermit Brown Mohn House (1) is historically, culturally, socially and architecturally very significant to we citizens of Rockville, and to our community, our City, Montgomery County, the State of Maryland and beyond and (2) its demolition would be highly detrimental from all of these perspectives;

and

We strongly endorse and support the submission of Margaret and Donald Hadley in the referenced matter.

Signed:

Signature	Street Address (Rockville, MD)	Phone/e-mail	Date
	208 UPTON ST	301-429-5748	12/12/11
 DAVID PRINCE	206 EVANS ST	301-762-5354	12/12/11

70 1 2

# PETITION

To: The City of Rockville Historic District Commission  
 From: The Undersigned Citizens of Rockville  
 Re: HDC2012-00558 Evaluation of Property for Demolition  
 Property: Kermit Brown Mohn House, 201 Upton Street  
 Dates: As indicated

We hereby petition the Historic District Commission to determine and recognize that the Kermit Brown Mohn House (1) is historically, culturally, socially and architecturally very significant to we citizens of Rockville, and to our community, our City, Montgomery County, the State of Maryland and beyond and (2) its demolition would be highly detrimental from all of these perspectives;

and

We strongly endorse and support the submission of Margaret and Donald Hadley in the referenced matter.

Signed:

Signature	Street Address (Rockville, MD)	Phone/e-mail	Date
<u>Shyam Srinivasan</u>	<u>120 North St. Rockville, MD</u>	<u>703-523-0134</u>	<u>12/14/11</u>



# Rockville residents honored for blazing new trails

**2 seniors receive  
Path to Achievement  
Awards for efforts**

**by Manju Subramanya**  
Staff Writer

Kermit Mohn turned a personal tragedy into a lifelong commitment to helping people with disabilities.

Nina Clarke overcame the obstacles facing black women in the 1930s to obtain a college degree and begin a lifetime of teaching and mentoring.

Mohn and Clarke, both Rockville residents, were among five county residents honored May 17 with the 1999 Path of Achievement Awards, an award established in 1998 to honor older county residents whose work and spirit have led to special accomplishments in personal and community endeavors.

Other award recipients this year include Peg Coleman of Boyds for arts and humanities, Richard Kelly of Kensington for community service and John Harvill of Gaithersburg for sports and fitness, according to Ann Evans, project director of the Retired and Senior Volunteer Program at the county's Volunteer and Community Service Center.

The award was presented by County Executive Douglas M. Duncan at a May 17 ceremony at the Strathmore Arts Center in North Bethesda.

The awards are sponsored by the Senior Beacon newspaper, Cable TV Montgomery and Strathmore Arts Center.

Here are their stories:

## A local hero for the disabled

Kermit Mohn's life changed drastically in 1963 when a car accident left his then-18-year-old son Eric Mohn a quadriplegic.

"It was a terrible shock," said Mohn, a former personnel manager at the Pentagon, noting his son was then a three-letter athlete at St. James School in Hagerstown.

In the years that followed, Mohn and his wife Evelyn tended to their son, foregoing vacations together so that one parent could remain with Eric.

As a parent of a disabled son, Kermit Mohn began to realize that many public places were not accessible to people in wheelchairs.

He volunteered to join the Montgomery County Commission on People with Disabilities in the mid-1980s, beginning a 15-year crusade to improve accessibility for people with disabilities and raise public awareness of disability issues.

Last week, the 86-year-old Rockville resident was recognized by the county for his advocacy on behalf of the disabled with a 1999 Path of Achievement award.

"It was certainly a great honor," said Mohn last Thursday. "I would consider it the capstone of my career."

Mohn was nominated for the award by Betsy Luecking, program manager at the county Commission on People with Disabilities, where Mohn still volunteers 30 hours a week.

"He has been a dedicated advocate on behalf of people with disabilities for more than 30 years — not only as a parent but also for people other than his family,"

**"He has been a dedicated advocate on behalf of people with disabilities for more than 30 years."**

Betsy Luecking, who nominated Kermit Mohn for the award

said Luecking, who has worked with Mohn for the past six years.

Luecking said Mohn's tireless efforts had resulted in several changes in public policy on employment, housing and accessibility issues for the disabled.

"He is one of our local heroes," Luecking said.

Mohn was also nominated by the District 17 legislative team of Sen. Jennie Forehand and Del. Michael Gordon, Kumar Barve and Cheryl Kagan.

Kermit Mohn's son, Eric, is today an award-winning artist who paints watercolors of buildings and landscapes with a brush in his mouth. He lives in Gaithersburg.

"It is amazing," said Mohn of his son's ability. "I am proud of him."

## Teacher, mentor, author

As a little girl, Nina Clarke was a teacher's delight.

Clarke, an African-American who has lived in Rockville for over 50 years, attended the one-

**"For 36 years she blazed a trail in Montgomery County Public Schools as a teacher and mentor to her students..."**

Barbara W. Williams, who nominated Nina Clarke for the award

room Old Union School on Peach Tree Road near Poolesville. She said it was so long ago she could not remember the year.

"I used to finish my work before anyone else," said Clarke, saying she then helped other children finish their assignments.

From that early experience as a teacher's helper, Clarke decided to be a teacher.

In choosing that career, she was also acknowledging the reality of those segregated times.

"Other than teaching school, there were no opportunities for an educated black woman," Clarke said.

Despite the many hurdles to higher education facing black women at that time, Clark obtained a master's degree of education from Boston University specializing in language arts and reading. She began teaching in 1937.

Clarke eventually left the classroom and became a vice principal of Brooke Grove Elementary School and later principal of Aspen Hill Elementary School in 1968 (now the Frost Center on Aspen Hill Road).

Barbara W. Williams, associate dean of Howard University, who nominated Clarke for the 1999 Path of Achievement award for workplace contributions, wrote a glowing letter of nomination.

"As a black woman beginning to teach in 1937, she was faced with inadequate facilities and supplies, but that did not stop her from giving 100 percent-plus to her students," wrote Williams about Clarke.

"It took creativity, a 'can-do' attitude, dedication and commitment, but she was determined to give her students the best possible education," wrote Williams.

"For 36 years she blazed a trail in Montgomery County Public Schools as a teacher and mentor to her students and to teachers junior to her," she wrote.

Clarke later went on to research and write two books — co-authoring "A History of the Black Public Schools of Montgomery County, Maryland, 1872-1961" and authoring "A History of 19th Century Black Churches in Maryland and the District of Columbia."

Over her lifetime she says she has witnessed a change in attitude towards blacks.

"In my time, they wouldn't hire you," she said. "Today, black people have all sorts of opportunity."

"I've seen it change from nothing to what it is today, which is very good," she said.

Clarke continues to be active — lecturing, serving on education committees and working as a docent for the Montgomery County Historical Society.

As for the award, Clarke says, "I wonder what I did to deserve the award."

# Artist brushes off handicap on way to success

by Jeanne Blackburn

When an artist is accepted by his peers it is, like any peer group acceptance, something to be proud of.

When that acceptance becomes recognition by the public and people outside the artistic community, a sense of accomplishment sets in that's hard to deny.

Eric Mohn, a watercolor painter whose works are currently showing at the Town Center Gallery in Rockville, is an artist who deserves his hard-won recognition.

For one thing he is self-taught, but not a fledgling. In fact he's been showing his work in and around his native Rockville for the past 10 years, including shows at the Maryland School of Art, the President's Committee for the Handicapped Convention and the Maryland State House in Annapolis.

He has also been winning awards for his work since 1979, when he was awarded first prize at the Moss Art Competition in Philadelphia; as he did again in 1981 and 1984. He also took first place in the 1982 Potomac Art League show and second place in the same show in 1984.

The latter two are the ones most coveted by Mohn because he was competing with artists of recognized capabilities and because they—unlike the disabled artists competing in Moss Art Competition—were not disabled.

Eric Mohn is a quadriplegic.

Virtually paralyzed from the neck down as the result of an automobile accident when he was 17 years old, Mohn, now 42, practices his art with a brush held between his teeth.

It's painstaking work, but Mohn manages to deftly execute a highly detailed and quite realistic dry-brush technique.

A love of drawing has always been with him, even before what he matter-of-factly refers to as "the accident" or "the summer I was hurt."

At the time, as a junior in high school, he was looking at colleges that would enable him to translate his love of drawing into a career.

"I had wanted to go into some school of design or architecture. I wasn't sure which," Mohn remembered. His love of architecture and the mechanical drawing I had at Richard Montgomery have influenced the fact that I do buildings mostly."

Much of Mohn's work is done from photos that he or his father take. Most of the paintings portray scenes from the Washington area and its surrounding countryside, or from Pennsylvania, where Mohn's emotional roots obviously lie.

Many include stark landscapes save an old, interesting farm house, barn or mill.

After Mohn's accident the process of rehabilitation was a long and tedious one. He credits Rush Institute in New York City for helping him realize his capabilities.



Photo by Bill Ryan

Artist Eric Mohn displays his work in a Rockville Gallery.

"Their philosophy is to get up in a wheelchair and get you out into the city just as soon as possible," he said, "and besides, I have wonderful parents who are very supportive, and a lot of good friends."

It helped, too, to get back into school and finish his education with stops at St. James Prep in Hagerstown, Montgomery College in Rockville, where he majored in economics for two years, and St. Andrews Presbyterian College in Laurenberg, N.C., where he completed his bachelor of arts degree. St. Andrews has wonderful facilities for wheelchair-bound students, according to Mohn.

Remembering the period in his life after graduation, during which he tried to decide on a direction for his life, Mohn recalled, "I could always draw and doodle in high school. I loved to draw but had no idea I could still do it."

So trying a set of acrylic paints his aunt had given him, Mohn started painting, but found acrylics too heavy a medium. It wasn't until his family visited a gallery in North Carolina that he contemplated watercolor and found it to his liking. Still, accommodations had to be made. "I have a brace that I can wear to hold a pencil, but I don't have control. It's not good. And if I tried to paint with the brace I'd be dragging my arm through the paint," he said.

Mohn's work has enjoyed recog-

nition in the past several years, including a blue ribbon for his "Connecticut Avenue Bridge," which was entered in the Potomac Art League Show in 1982 at Mazza Galleries.

For Mohn, the blue ribbon carried special significance.

anyone, when pressed he admonished young artists to "just go out and do it. I was afraid of what I was doing. I never thought I could do this. I never thought I could do that. I probably would not have done some of the things I've done if I hadn't had the support of my parents. You just have to go out and draw."

"I'm very happy doing what I'm

doing," he said.

And it shows—in his work and his attitude.

Mohn's work are currently showing at the Town Center Gallery, 250 Hungerford Drive, Rockville. Call 424-7313 for information. The artist himself can be contacted at 201 Upton, Rockville, MD 20850 or by call 340-1377.

## CONGRATULATIONS For a job well done



### James Otto

When looking for a Carrier of the Week, we came across James Otto. He is being commended for his neat, on-time, door-step delivery. James became interested in carrying when he moved to a new development and a carrier was needed for his area.



**Hearing**  
kmohn to: Rziek

12/12/2011 09:27 AM

[View: \(Mail Threads\)](#)

Good morning Robin

I read over your excellent study results and thank you for your attention to detail and interpretation of the criteria.

I also read over other inputs, i.e. the Hadleys lengthy letter.

Our family position remains the same; we reiterate that we desire that our request is approved.

respectively

Kermit Mohn



**Re: Fw: Historic District Commission meeting agenda**  
kmohn to: Rziek

12/09/2011 10:29 AM

[View: \(Mail Threads\)](#)

Hi Robin Rita Mohn, my sister in law and widow of my deceased brother, Eric Mohn, plans to represent me as applicant at the hearing and plans to speak. If there is an order of speaking, can she speak last?

Steve Mohn

On Thu, 8 Dec 2011 15:33:11 -0500

Rziek@rockvillemd.gov wrote:

>

> Robin Ziek

> Historic Preservation Planner

> City of Rockville

> 111 Maryland Avenue

> Rockville, MD 20850

> (240)314-8236

> FAX: 240-314-8210

> rziek@rockvillemd.gov

> -----

>

> (See attached file: Agenda 13-2011 December 15.doc)

>

> (See attached file: HDC2012-00558.pdf)

>

>

>

>

>

>

>

>

>



**Re: Fw: Historic District Commission meeting agenda**  
kmohn to: Rziek

12/08/2011 06:25 PM

[View: \(Mail Threads\)](#)

Robin thank you. very thorough work and good job. Eric's work was really performed after he left the house as you pointed out ,but the hadley's letter makes it appear that it happened while he was still living there.

Steve Mohn

On Thu, 8 Dec 2011 15:33:11 -0500

Rziek@rockvillemd.gov wrote:

>  
> Robin Ziek  
> Historic Preservation Planner  
> City of Rockville  
> 111 Maryland Avenue  
> Rockville, MD 20850  
> (240)314-8236  
> FAX: 240-314-8210  
> rziek@rockvillemd.gov  
> -----  
>  
> (See attached file: Agenda 13-2011 December 15.doc)  
>  
> (See attached file: HDC2012-00558.pdf)  
>  
>  
>  
>  
>  
>  
>  
>  
>